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5/10/00
J.F.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re PATENT APPLICATION of

Applicant	:	Takahide KASAI et al.)	
)	
Application No.	:	Not Yet Assigned)	
)	
Filed	:	Concurrently)	
)	
For	:	COATING AGENT)	PRELIMINARY
)	AMENDMENT
Attorney Docket	:	31671-157328 RK)	
)	
)	
)	February 28, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the fees, please amend the claims as follows:

~~Claim 3, line 1, delete "or 2".~~

~~Claim 4, line 3, change "Claims 1 through 3" to --claim 1--.~~

~~Claim 6, line 1, delete "or 5".~~

~~Claim 7, line 2, change "any of Claims 1 through 3" to --claim 1--.~~

Please add the following claims:

--9. A coating agent according to Claim 2, characterized in which said coating agent further comprises a plasticizer.

10. A coated material, on which a coating treatment has been conducted using a coating agent according to Claim 2.

11. A coated material according to Claim 10, characterized in which wherein the coated material is a granular material such as fine particles, granules, or tablets.